PRICE FIVE CENTS

Plan of British to Take Away Commerce, Will Wreak Havoc With Neutrals.

WILL FUT MORE AT CARRYING GRAIN

Already One Third Are Engaged Carrying Food, and More Needed, Due to the Inroads Made by Submarines.

(By Review Leased Wire) NEW YORK, Dec. 20 .- A desire of the British government to mobilize under one general head the entire ocean carrying facilities of the United Kingdom for the exclusive benefit of the allied markets and the great civilian population of the allied countries, is the reason behind the statement of Premier Lloyd-George that the shipping of Great Britain "will be nation. Northern, otherwise known as the shipping men here."

Third Carry Grain third of his ships available for pres- material."

ent shippers.

Cargo Restricted British bottoms of any commodity included in the sale. other than that necessary for main-

It is also deemed not unlikely that British ships now engaged in trade serts, between neutral countries will be called upon to take their place in the line of ships engaged in transferring that they were not in the market,"

All Under One Flag

Great Britain's merchant marine is to cent a pair. be brought under one general head part, or the government will take it Pacific Coast. over. The people of England and her armies must be supplied with actual OKLAHOMA FIVE BEATS necessities and the government will see to it through such control of carwhat all cannot get.

(Continued on Page 2)

### CHRISTMAS BRINGS JOY AND SORROW AT PEN. McALESTER, Okla., Dec. 20.

-Christmas was a word of both \* sorrow and joy at the state peni-\* tentiary here today. Discovery \* of an underground tunnel through \* which 25 convicts planned to \* escape on Christmas eve thwart- \* \* ed the plans of these men for # liberty during the holidays while \* \* 83 good conduct prisoners were \* \* released to go home on Christmas \* \* pardons, paroles and reprieves \* # from Governor Robert L. Wil- \*

\* Four men have been placed in \* solitary confinement in connec- \* # tion with the attempted prison \*

# All Ships and Use In Own Commerce, Will Wreak

Waste Material Business Now Billion a Year, in the United

(By Review Leased Wire) NEW YORK, Dec. 20 .- Bought as "junk" the Chicago, Anamosa and alized according to leading British "Can" road, has been resold and will be torn up and with its rolling stock shipped to England and relaid, accord-For some time one of the representing to its president, Herman Sonker, tative steamship men today said, all attending the quarterly session here of British vessels have one third of their the National Association of Waste cargo space commandeered for grain. Material Dealers. He said he expected This space has recently been increas- to make the same disposition of aned to such an extent that now the other road he owns, the Iowa Short New York agent has only about one. Line, which he also bought as "waste

The price of old rails and iron has The same authority says that it was that the sale of the "Can" road real to become known until tonight when his belief that more space would be ized a very handsome profit. The the notes were well on their way to German allies of their accord brought President Roosevelt's move in 1905 to controlled by the government by regu- road is 36 miles in length. The roll- the American ambassadors in the bel- forward their proposals for discussion end the war between Russia and Japan. lations requiring that all cargo be of ing cars include six freight cars, two ligerent capitals and probably in the of peace. President Wilson specifical But in that case the President had ficially designated. Designations of combination passenger cars and three hands of some of them. cargo will mean that the shipping in locomotives. Six steel bridges were

Our Awful Waste. tenance of army and civil life will be States in 1916 has amounted to more The waste material in the United than \$1,000,000, the association as-

Used Paper Valuable.

"The paper manufacturers in recent months have assured us repeatedly supplies to great Braitain and her al- said one official. The fact is that the paper mills are getting all the waste material they need. There have been "Without official details of the pro- extraordinary increases in the price of posed nationalization plan," an au- waste paper during that last year, it thority in close touch with shipping was announced. Used Sunday fivesaid: "I anticipate that in substance cent papers are now worth one cent, it means the entire resources of old black stockings bring about one

and that one executive will direct its | Woolen rags are worth 16 cents a movements and its utility. Cargoes pound to dealers, while mixed rags will be jointly apportioned among the sell for four and a half cents in New various lines and every ship flying England, three and a half cents in the the flag of Great Britain must do its middle west and three cents on the

COLORADO AGGIES 34 TO 27 FORT COLLINS, Colo., Dec. 20 .go that no one class of people will get The klahoma Normal Basket Ball Team defeated the Colorado Agricul-No serious consideration seems to tural College quintet here tonight by the score of 34 to 27.

# HOUSE SPEAKERSHIP IN DOUBT: INDEPENDENTS MAY DECIDE

By Review Leased Wire) changes in the rules.

for voting as a body in the speaker- nia, prohibitionist, indicated today, ship fight, but it is not impossible that however, the nature of the immediate such an arrangement will be attempt- plans. ed later. Informal conferences among "We are anxious that the rules be independents now in congress have amended so that the people may know resulted in a tentative agreement be what their representatives are doing,"

has conferred with Colonel Roosevelt WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.-Independ over the situation and will seek furent members of the national House ther advice from him of how to proof Representatives are planning an ceed. Conferences have proceeded organization to work apart from both quietly, usually on the floor of the Democrats and Republicans with the House. Participants are seeking their avowed purpose of enforcing radical favor as the speakership situation daily becomes more doubtful.

Thus far no plans have been made | Representatives Randall of Califor-

he said. "The present system of vot-(Continued on Page 2)

# Wants Avowal of All Views Upon Which War Might Be Concluded So All Interested Can Compare Them

Note Comes as Big Surprise, Diplomats of Allied Nations Clamoring to Assert They Had Not Requested It-Startling Announcement Causes Many to Suspect War May Be Much Nearer an End Than Most Dream-President Is Careful to Explain He Hasn't "Directly" Proposed Peace.

(By Review Leased Wire.)

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—President Wilosn has appealed to all the belligerents to discuss terms of peace.

Without actually proposing peace or offering mediation, the President has sent formal notes to the governments of all the warring nations suggesting that "an early occasion be sought to call out from the nations now at war an avowal of their respective views as to the terms upon which the war might be concluded, and the arrangements which would be deemed satisfactory as guarantees and the kindling of a new kind of faith as would mak eit possible frankly to compare them.

Came as Surprise

How Near? He Asks.

"The President is not proposing peace; he is not even offering mediation. He is merely proposing that soundings be taken in order that we may learn, the neutral nations with belligerents how near the haven of peace may be for which all mankind longs with an intense and increasing longing. He believes that the spirit in which he speaks and the objects which he seeks will be understood by all concerned, and he confidently hopes for a response which will bring a new light into the affairs of the world."

rapidly moving world events toward a liminary. reached such heights, Mr. Sonker said, discussion of peace was not permitted

Startles Washington.

central powers the officers of the powers. United States would await further moves between the belligerents themneutrals would depend on the next ligerents.

'Tis Masterly Stroke. The whole tenor of official opinion \* ing toward an approach to peace dis \* sale of the Danish West Indies \* action. cussions between the belligerents, \* to the United States. The vote \* without impairing the position of the \* was 90 in favor and 16 against \* The President looks forward in the United States should they finally be \* ratification. Five members were \* notes to the part the neutrals shall unable to find ground on which to ap = absent.

proach each other.

Secrecy Is Tense. Wholly without notice and entirely At the White House no statement he says he "would have delayed offer contrary to what administration offi- was obtained as to whether any of the ing it until those overtures had been cials have described as his course, the powers had intimated how they would answered but for the fact that it also President last night despatched the receive the note, and there was every concerns the question of peace and notes to all the belligerents and to indication that the same careful secre- may thus be considered in connection all the neutrals for their information, cy, which prevented anything what with other proposals which have the Summarized in the President's own ever becoming known about the President's ame end in view." Amounts to More Than a words as contained in the notes, the dent's action until it had been taken, would surround any of the succeeding

History in Making.

posals to dispel the generally preval- sible mediator. ent belief that such an action on the part of President Woods would be un. The Corman And a week, consist acceptable to the entente powers. Diplomats "Surprised."

they were utterly taken by surprise, ized statement by Count Bernstorff, were wholly unable to explain it and the German ambassador: were emphatic in their statement that no exchanges whatever had passed vinced that there will be a confer-This latest development in the through the embassy here as a pre-ence."

Admits Delicacy.

Playing no Favorite.

\* DANISH HOUSE VOTES

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

them." To both sets of belligerents

Diplomats Agog.

Diplomats considered it incredible that the President would bring forward such a proposal at such a time Nowhere on the surface appears any unless he had reason to believe it indication of history-making events would receive respectful consideration which diplomatists generally are con- at the hands of all the belligerents vinced must have transpired, since the and above all would not prejudice the German allies brought forth their pro-position of the United States as a pos-

Conference Assured?

ently hopeful that proposals of the central allies would lead to a discussion British embassy officials declared of peace, was expressed in this author-

"Now," said he, "I am perfectly con

T. R's Precedent.

The nearest parrallel in world his-All that, however, was before the tory for President Wilson's action was ly says in the notes he is somewhat been assured his proposal would not embarrassed in making the suggestion be disagreeable to either of the belig-It was a most distinct surprise to at this particular time, because it may erents and curiously enough it was all official Washington, which had now seem to have been prompted by through Emperor William of Germany been led to believe that with the for- a desire to play a part in connection that the preliminary soundings crystamal transmittal of the proposal of the with recent overtures of the central lized into the suggestion that Prestdent Roosevelt take the steps.

Before that time President Roose To the central powers the President velt had conferred with Count Cassini, selves and that certainly, in view of says his action was in no way "sug- the Russian ambassador here and with the speech of Premier Lloyd-George gested" by the Teutonic proposals, Mr. Takihira, the Japanese minister and the announcements in Russia, while to the entente allies he says his In the Russian capital the American France and Italy, further action by note is in "no way associated with ambassador, George von L. Meyer, had conversations with Count Lamsdorff, careful and delicate moves of the bel- \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* the Russian minister for foreign afa fairs. In Tokio, American minister TO SELL ISLES TO U. S. \* Griscom had conversed with Count \* Komura, the Japanese minister for throughout Washington, when the # COPENHAGEN, Via London, \* foreign affairs. The outcome of all President's action became known was \* Dec. 20.-After a single reading \* these preliminaries was that President that it immeasurably improved the pro- \* the Folkething today adopted the \* Roosevelt was assured that he would spects for some sort of exchanges look. \* bill ratifying the treaty for the \* not be humiliated by a rejection of his

Neutrals to Play Part

\* take in assuring the future peace of (Continued on Page Two.)

## Ruined Village In France Rises Again From Ashes As Monument of American Friendship

(By Review Leased Wire) ng the first village reconstructed in settling the matter. France and this is due to American enterprise and generosity. The rebuilding is already under way, the cor-

American Finances It.

Francisco, who has furnished the plans would be seen soon. are being employed on the building in so many ways.

VITRIMONT, France, via Paris, Dec. front American building contractors. to see such highly useful work begun 20.-This village, which, like its neigh. She has had her first strike in the last by his own countrymen for those who bor, Gerveviller, was destroyed early week, that of masons, who sought had been made homeless by the forin the war, will have the honor of be- higher wages, but she succeeded in tunes of war, but he was greatly in-

Rebuilding Brings Joy.

The corner stone laying was an this beneficient aid might be extendher stone of the first group of houses event in Vitrimont. Grouped about ed to other villages in the province of having been laid Sunday by the Amer- the ruins and the foundation of the Lorraine, upon which like destruction ican ambassador, William Graves first structure were the inhabitants and had been visited. Sharp, who had been invited to participate in the ceremony by those inter. American flag, besides the tri-color of responsible for the work and referred ested in this distinctly American un- France, was in evidence here and feelingly to the fortitude of the afthere, and despite the gloominess of nicted people under such trying conthe situation of the destroyed village, ditions. there was a manifest feeling of joy | The little girls of the village, who Mrs. William H. Crocker, of San that its restoration after original excel in the art of embroidery, were

funds for reconstruction, was unable Leon Poebe, mayor of Vitrimont, gave him handkerchiefs, examples of to see the realization of her work. She and M. Mirman, of Nancy, prefect of their work, as souvenirs. was represented by Miss Daisy Polk, the department Meurthe-et-Mosselle.

operations. Miss Polk's task is not Replying. Ambassador Sharp said it Rheims

| without difficulties, such as often con- | had not only given him much pleasure terested in the possibilities to which this work, so auspiciously begun, might lead. He hoped earnestly that

In conclusion he complimented those

presented to the ambassador and they a secret session with the party lead-full powers to negotiate. Dr. Von

On the return trip to Paris, Ambasof San Francisco, known in the com- spoke thanking the American people sador Sharp stopped at Rheims and munity as "Madamoiselle de Chez through the ambassador for their gen- inspected the cathedral, the ruins of ther consultation even with the party voted the powers the chancellor Nouse," or "Miss One Of Us", who is crous initiative toward the rebuilding the arch-episcopal palace and the de-leaders. superintending the work. Old men of the ruined places of France and the vastated sections of the city. Only and youths unfit for military service aid which the United States had given the night before 50 shells from the German guns had been thrown into ers and detailed points of his peace Bethmann-Hollweg resigned he would

IN FRIGID WAVE.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 20 .- Kansas City and the southwest continued to shiver tonight, as a result of the cold wave. The local weather bureau thermometer at \* \* 7 o'clock tonight registered 7 dement forecaster asserted the belief that 5 below zero would be \* \* reached here before morning. \* \* Temperatures south and into the \* Texas Panhandle continued low, \* \* Amarilla recorded ten degrees \* \* above zero and Abilene in the \* \* center of the state twenty-two \*

degrees above zero. \* To the north of Omaha thermo- \* # meters were exploring the depths \* \* around eight degrees below zero.

Clear weather in the north and \* northwest was the forecast for to- \* morrow with continued cold and possibly a local flurry of snow,

Formal Notes Will Be Dispatched From All Allies Be-Concrete Peace Proposals.

(By Review Leased Wire)

strong probability that Great Britain's eral staff report. Conclusions drawn reply to the German peace proposal from the figures to support the conwill be ready before Christmas. This tention that the guard system is inwas the opinion in well informed cir- efficient and unreliable, were quesbrief and will likely follow the lines of the Chamberlain universal training of Mr. Lloyd-George's maiden speech bill decided to recall General Scott, as prime minister in si far as it will who already has presented the mobilileave the door open for Germany to zation in full to that committee and

It would, therefore, not be surpris- to the mobilization. ing if the allies' replies were ready by the end of the week. Especially, it In preparation for the cross examiious to dispatch without delay.

is acting foreign secretary in the ab- units of the guard. serve of Mr. Balfour, it may be handallies' interests in Germany. It is just close of the day's session. possible that the British foreign of the British ambassador at Washing however, Howard H. Gross of Chica-

Fate of National Guard In Federal Military System Is to Be Determined By Bitter Struggle.

ARMY GENERALS ARE CROSS-QUESTIONED

Anti-Army Men in Congress Learn Startling Facts Concerning American Defense or Lack of It.

(By Roview Leased Wire) WASHINGTON, Dec. 20. - Sharp controversy in congress over the future of the national guard in the federat military system was foreshadowed today at hearings before committees

of both the House and Senate. Gen. Scott Quizzed

Major General Hugh L. Scott, chief. fore Christmas Inviting of staff of the army, encountered vigorous cross examination by several members of the House military committee, when he touched upon results of the mobilization of the state troops LONDON, Dec. 20. of There is & for border outy as shown in the geneles where it is said the reply will be tioned. The sub-committee in charge Major General Leonard Wood, com-Great Britain's official reply to Ger- manding the eastern department, who many, as prominent officials preferr described the mobilization as "a traed to term it, will be submitted simul- gedy" in his direct hearing before the taneously with that of her allies. Ev- committee. Both officers have been er since the German note was handed asked to appear for cross examination to the foreign office by the American by Senator Blair Lee, a champion of ambassador, it has been the subject the nutional guard. An effort yesterof discussion between Premier Lloyd- day by the Maryland senator who is George and his cabinet council, which not a member of the committee to meets daily. The note and the nature question Colonel L. C. Brown, one of of the reply also have been discussed the officers who prepared a report, with Great Britain's allies and it was was stopped by Chairman Chamberstated that these conversations have lain. The latter determined today, progressed so rapidly that preliminary however, to give Senator Lee every drafts have already been made. opportunity to bring out the facts as

is said, would this be true in the case nation, it is understood that staff ofof Great Britain's note, which the ficers familiar with mobilization are prime minister is declared to be anx- prepared to submit the original reports from the inspectors, including When the terms of the note are defi- names of the organizations examined. nitely agreed upon and the document. The compiled summary of these reis signed by Lord Robert Cecil, who ports avoids mention of any specific

Afraid of Issue

ed to Ambassador Page with the re- The House committee did not go quest that he forward it to the state into the question of universal military department at Washington for trans- service recommended by the general mission to Germany. This is said to staff and Generals Scott and Wood. be the most likely method, inasmuch The chief of staff had not reached as the United States represents the that portion of his statement at the

Champion Big Army fice may address the reply direct to | Before the Chamberlain committee, (Continued on Page Four)

## GERMAN CHANCELLOR GRANTED FULL POWERS TO MAKE TERMS

Zurich says information has been re- in the empire. ceived there from Berlin saying that "When the leaders objected to Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg, in granting the chancellor's demands for ers preceding his announcements of Bethmann-Hollweg countered with the Germany's peace offer in the Reich- statement that he would resign forthstag, was given full powers to con- with unless his demands were met.

these terms would not take any cor LONDON, Dec. 21.-A dispatch to sideration of the various expressed Reuter's Telegram Company from wishes of the numerous parties with-

duct peace negotiations without fur ; "After a long argument the leaders wished, explaining later to followers "The chancellor," says the dispatch, that they were compelled to do this "refused point blank to give the leads owing to the fear that if Dr. Von terms, although he stated bluntly that be succeeded by Admiral von Tirpitz."